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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Date Allowed: **December 22, 2008**

KIMURA, Shizuo, et al.

Group Art Unit: **3726**

Serial Number: **10/560,835**

Examiner: **AFZALI, Sarang**

Filed: **May 31, 2006**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 6851

For: **WHEEL RIM, WHEEL, AND METHODS OF PRODUCING THEM**

REQUEST FOR RETURN OF FORM PTO-1449

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 13, 2009

Sir:

An Information Disclosure Statement was filed on **December 30, 2008**. A copy of this Information Disclosure Statement is attached.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner return a copy of the Form PTO-1449 which accompanies the Information Disclosure Statement, marked to indicate that the reference listed therein has been considered by the Office.

The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned should he have any questions concerning this Request.

Respectfully submitted,

KRATZ, QUINTOS & HANSON, LLP


William G. Kratz, Jr.

Attorney for Applicant

Reg. No. 22,631

WGK/ak

Atty. Docket No. **050828**
Suite 400
1420 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 659-2930



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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosure: Information Disclosure Statement filed on **December 30, 2008**
Date Stamped Post Card (copy)

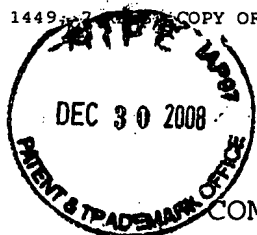


CARD NO: 30191

U.S. Patent Application Docket No: 050828
Serial No: 10/560,835 Filed: 05/31/06
Patent Number: Issued:
Applicant(s): KIMURA, Shizuo, et al.

Papers filed herewith on: 12/30/08

Other: INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR
1.97(d); 1449.207 COPY OF JPO COMMUNICATION



COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

Receipt is hereby acknowledged of the papers filed as indicated
in connection with the above-identified case.

WGK/WGK



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **KIMURA, Shizuo, et al.**

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For. **WHEEL RIM, WHEEL, AND METHODS OF PRODUCING THEM**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(d)**

Attn: Group Director

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 30, 2008

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 cited by the Japanese Patent Office in a corresponding application. A copy of each document is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the mailing of a final action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee.

The undersigned hereby certifies:

XX That each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application on November 25, 2008 not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement;


That no item of information contained in this statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no information contained in this statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account in the amount of \$180.00 which covers the fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this Statement to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

KRATZ, QUINTOS & HANSON, LLP


William G. Kratz, Jr.
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 22,631

WGK/ak

Atty. Docket No. **050828**
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1420 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO 1449, Copy of Communication from JPO with English translation
References (7)